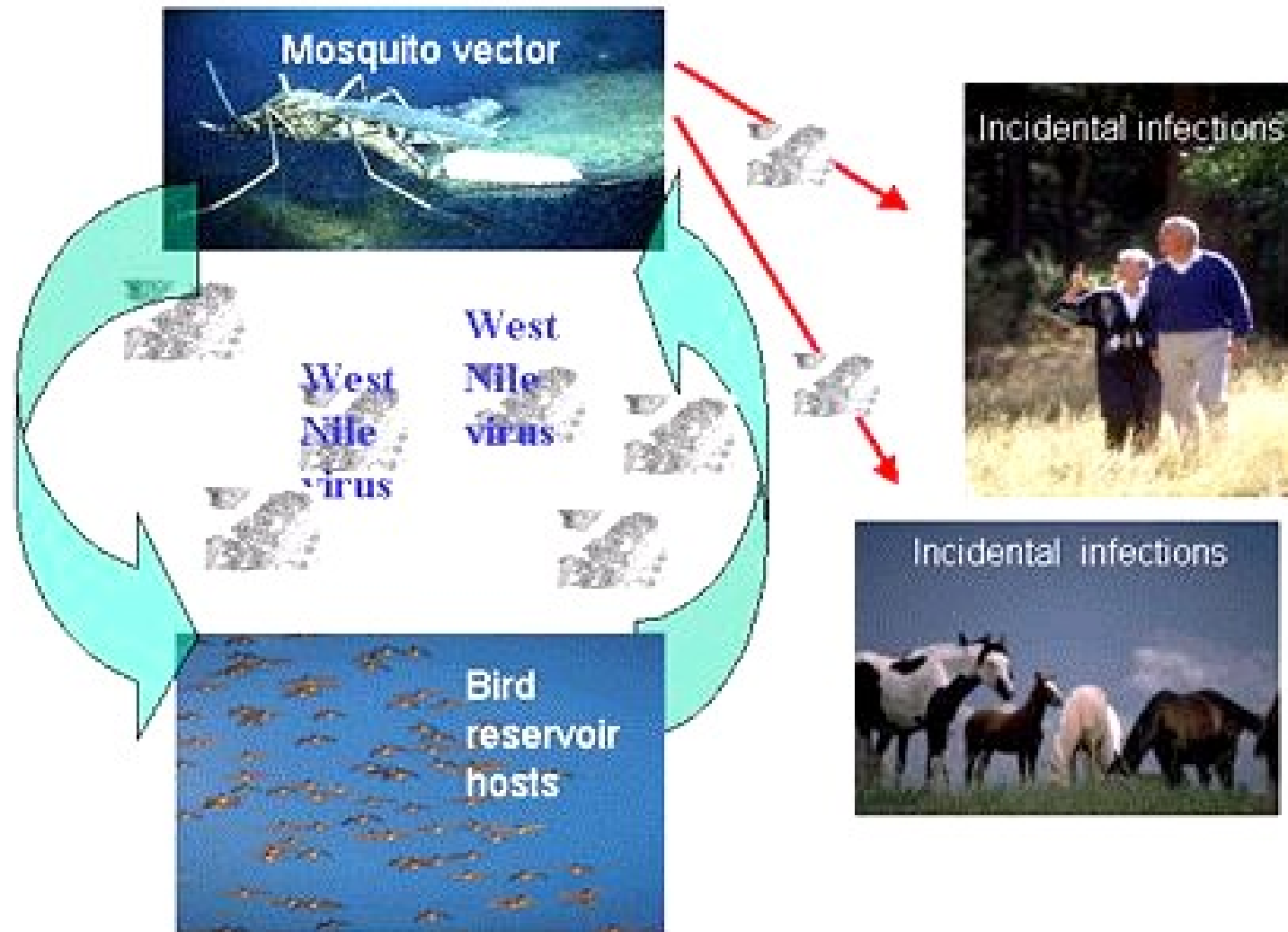


**West Nile Virus...**  
**Coming to a Post Near**  
**You**

**CPT Beverly Drotos**  
**Chief, Monmouth Branch**

# West Nile Virus Transmission Cycle



# **Clinical Signs of Infection**

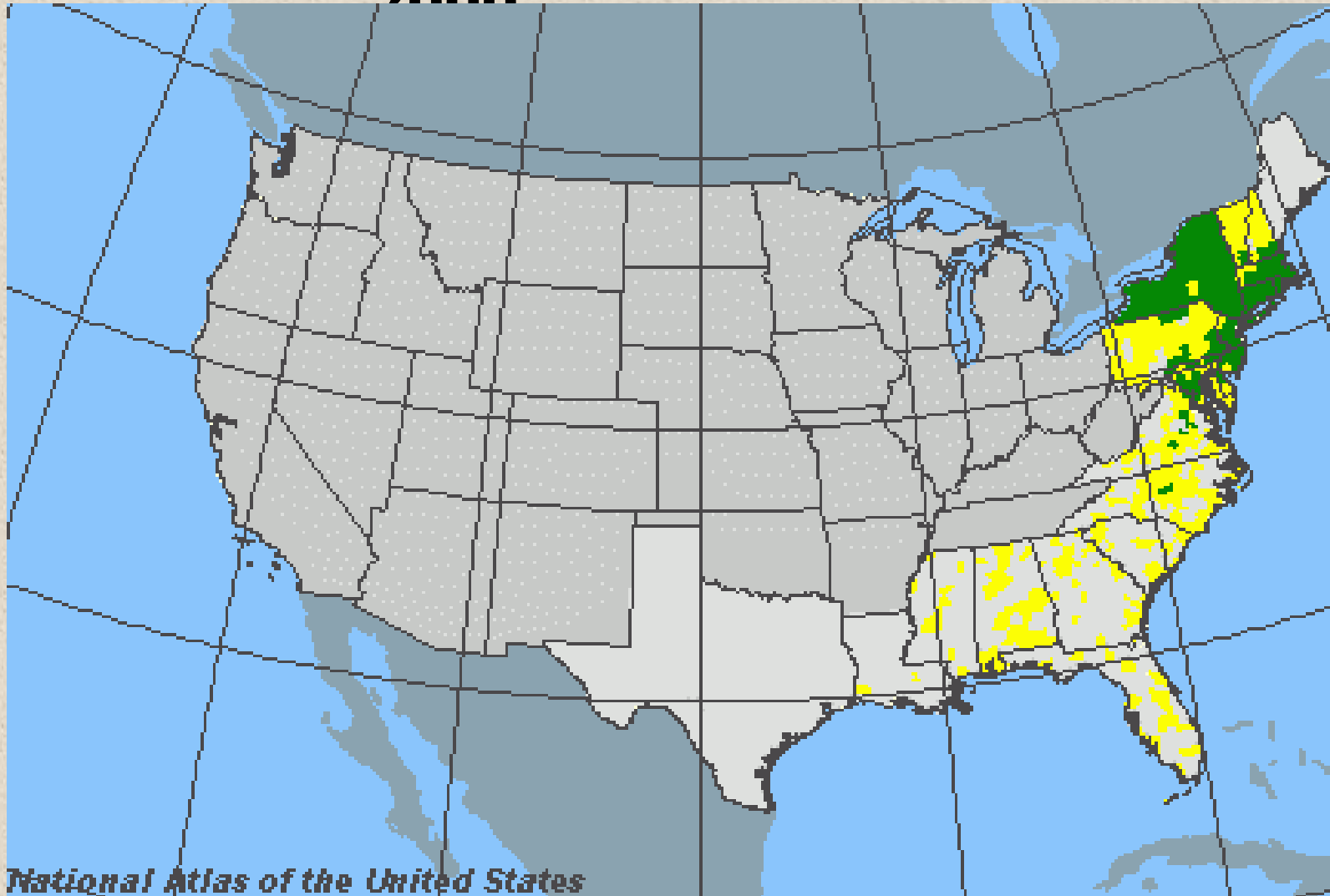
- **Fever**
- **Headache/ Body Ache**
- **Swollen Lymph Nodes**
- **Stupor**
- **Disorientation**
- **Muscle Weakness**
- **Paralysis**
- **Tremors**



# West Nile Virus 1999

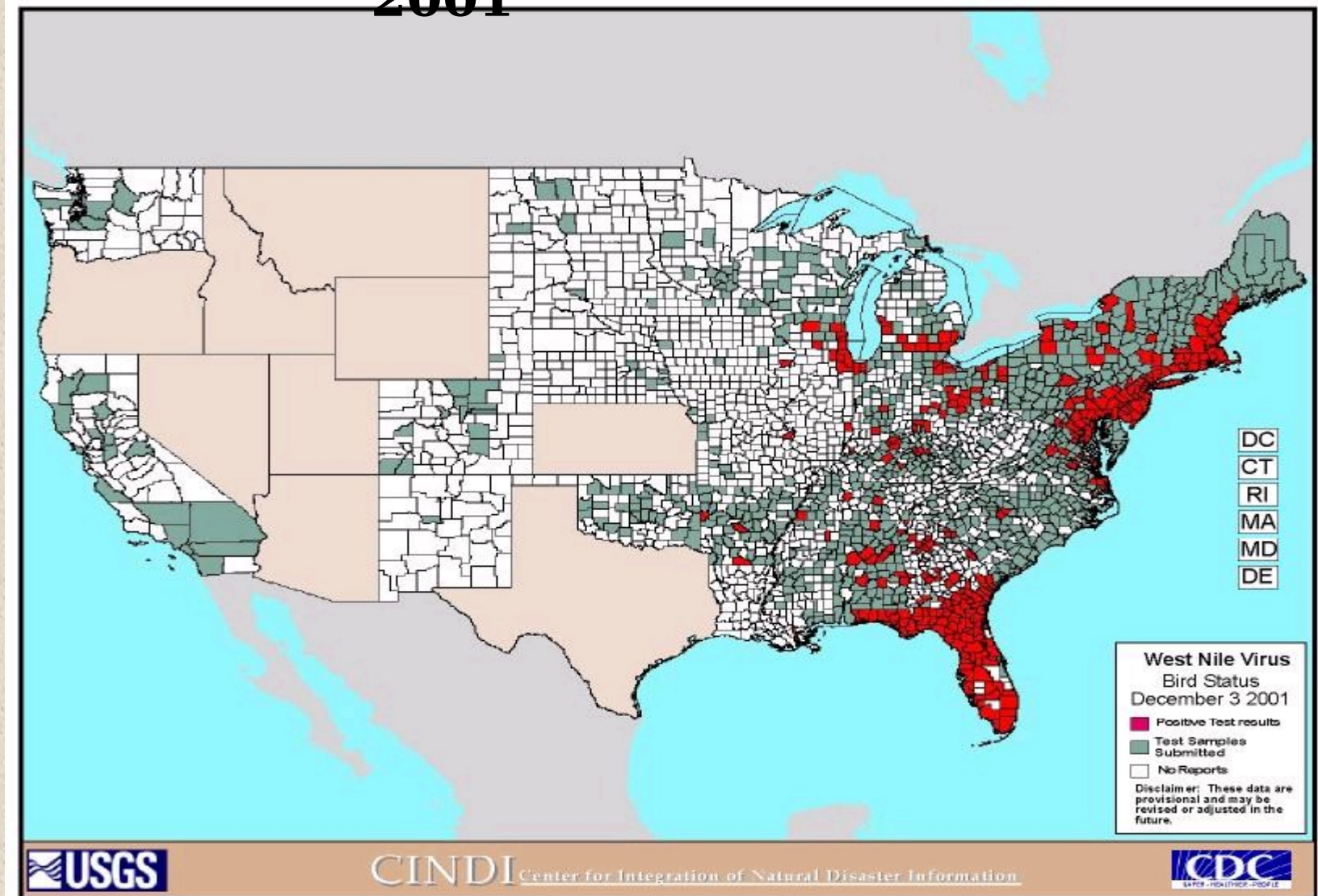


# West Nile Bird Cases 2000



**Positive Cases in  
Green**

# West Nile Bird Cases 2001



Positive Cases in  
Red



- **West Nile Virus (WNV) is a flavivirus, which until 1999 was not found in the United States. Mosquitoes become infected with WNV when feeding on infected birds. After an incubation period of 5-15 days a mosquito can then transmit the virus to humans and animals during blood feeding. Following transmission the virus multiplies in the blood stream and may cross the blood-brain barrier, where it may cause inflammation of the brain tissue. The case fatality rate for humans is 3-15%. West Nile is more prevalent in late summer and early fall.**

- **In April 2000 VETCOM initiated a blood sampling program for Government owned equine. WNV bird samples were sent in from Northeast District but no results were ever sent back to the installations.**

- **In April 2001 North Atlantic Regional Veterinary Command initiated a WNV surveillance program in conjunction with the USGS National Wildlife Health Center. At this time all bird and small mammal submissions were sent for diagnostic testing. This program allowed each installation to receive WNV**

- In previous years installations involved in WNV bird sampling were unable to receive sampling results. Using the USGS program each regional WNV point of contact was able to send positive results to the branch VCO's, who were then able to inform the Garrison Commander's. This information was also sent to USACHPPM, who worked in conjunction with Preventive Medicine and the local communities to investigate clumping of positive results and to initiate mosquito spraying if needed.

- With the spread of the disease along the Eastern seaboard and Gulf coast it is important that each VCO become familiar with the clinical signs of WNV infection and understand how to send in dead birds for WNV testing.

- Important Web Sites:

- [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.html)

- [www.nwhc.usgs.gov/research/west\\_nile/west\\_ni](http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/research/west_nile/west_ni)



# **Equine and Canine Cases in 2001**

- **413 confirmed cases in horses from 19 states- 71 of these died or were euthanized**
- **Vaccine under conditional license- 2 IM doses 3-6 weeks apart**
- **1 confirmed canine case in Georgia this year.**

# Equine Cases By State 1999-2001

